

This Little Light of Mine: Research assistance at the National Archives



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| Project Title | This Little Light of Mine: Research assistance at the National Archives |
| Project Summary | Seeking an intern to do original research in the National Archives repositories located in/near Philadelphia, PA and/or Washington, DC regarding the Cape Lookout Lighthouse history and its daily operations while targeting specific events in its history. |
| Country | United States |
| Country/Region of Focus | United States |

Project Description

Perform original research in the archive repositories hunting the “missing” log books, letters, photographs and other records for Cape Lookout Lighthouse. Research will be done predominately in RG 26 – the records of the U.S. Coast Guard and its predecessor agencies, but may also include record groups of other agencies. Since most of the records for our lighthouse have not been digitized or cataloged down to the individual level, research will take place in person at the archive’s location. Selected intern(s) will work in collaboration with NPS staff to identify needed research and documents and arrange for making copies of the most important items found.

Required Skills or Interests

Skill(s)
Research
Writing

Additional Information

We’re seeking intern(s) who live near, or at least within commuting distance of, the archive location(s) and able

to conduct research in person at least one day a week during the archive's operational hours (generally Monday through Friday).

The selected intern(s) will need to be able to read and decipher handwritten cursive script. Being familiar with common forms of abbreviations for names, job titles and other words used in the letters and reports of the earlier eras is a plus. Poor handwriting and inventive spelling in the documents does make for challenging reading.

Research conducted in the archives will fill in the information gaps in the lighthouse's history making the information and stories presented to our visitors more accurate. The research is also vital to completing the needed historic structure reports and in formulating the engineering solutions to correct current structural problems in the 159 year old tower.

Language Requirements

None